

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Grise et al.

Docket No.: BUR920040061US1

Serial No.: 10/711,075

Art Unit: 2138

Filed: August 20, 2004

Examiner: TABONE JR, JOHN J

Title: FUNCTIONAL FREQUENCY TESTING OF INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents & Trademarks
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on October 3, 2006, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Group II, claims 25-42, drawn to a method and circuit for an integrated circuit which includes a test controller, a clock splitter and an LSD scan chain, classified in class 714, subclass 724. This election is made with traverse, and Applicants hereby reserve the right to file a divisional application in connection with unelected claims 1-24, drawn to a method and circuit for a control circuit having a feedback connection, classified in class 714, subclass 724,; unelected claims 43-58 drawn to a method and circuit for an integrated circuit which includes a test controller and a scan chain having serially connected latches and multiplexers, classified in class 714, subclass 726 and unelected claims 59-70, which includes a test controller and a scan chain having serially connected latches and multiplexers, classified in class 714, subclass 726.

With regard to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of all claims 1-70 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the search and the examination of

the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP § 803, in which it is stated that “if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions” (emphasis added). Applicants respectfully submit that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

For example, re groups III and IV, in the context of the disclosure the term multiplexers and de-multiplexer are interchangeable. Further, groups II, III and IV are related to group I by claims 26, 44 and 60 respectfully, which recite the limitations of claim 1 of group I.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account 09-0456 .

Should the Examiner require or request anything further from Applicant’s prior to examination, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants’ undersigned representative at the Agent Direct Dial telephone number below. Otherwise, Applicants request early and favorable examination on the merits

Respectfully submitted,
FOR:

Dated: 10/26/2006

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